

escape of noxious gases, or of mineral substances held in solution ; and the editor of the newspaper 'Forest and Stream' refers particularly to a boiling spring which is said to exist off the coast. Others suggest the action of parasitic plants ; and this appears to be the opinion of Dr. F. M. Endlich, who has made an analysis of the noxious water, and reports upon it as follows :—

"Having completed the examination of sea-waters from the Gulf of Mexico, so far as the scant supply would permit, I have the honour to offer the following report thereupon, the water in which the fish die being designated as A, the good water as B :—

	A.	B.
Specific gravity	1.024	1.022
Solid constituents (total), per cent. . .	4.0780	4.1095
Ferric compounds, per cent.	0.1106	0.0724
Injurious organic matter	ratio=3	ratio=2

"I find that the water A contains a large quantity of Algæ and Infusoria. It is eminently probable that the former may have had an injurious effect upon the fish. Specimens of the Algæ have been submitted to Professor Goode, who will send them to some expert in order that their specific character may be determined.

"The 'dead fish' in the possession of the United States' National Museum are such that any examination of the organs of respiration will be of no avail.

"I cannot find, even by spectroscopic analysis, any mineral constituents in the water A which could noxiously affect the fish.

"In my estimation the death of fish was caused by the more or less parasitic Algæ, which are found in large quantities in water A, but do not occur at all in water B.

"In case the same phenomenon should recur, the presence of an expert in the questions involved, more particularly chemistry and botany, would most likely lead to definite results."

Rhizopods the Food of some young Fishes.

Dr. Leidy reports that the young of some of the Suckers (Cato-stomidæ), *Hypentelium*, *Myxostoma*, &c., have been found by Mr. S. A. Forbes, of Illinois, to have the intestines packed with tests of *Diffugia* and *Arcella*, indicating that they feed on Rhizopods. In a slide containing material from the intestines of the young mullet (*Myxostoma macrolepidotum*) from Mackinaw Creek, prepared by Mr. Forbes, Dr. Leidy distinguished *Diffugia globulosa* and *D. acuminata* ; and in another of the food of *Eremyzon succetta* he found *Diffugia globulosa*, *D. lobostoma*, *D. pyriformis*, *Arcella vulgaris*, and *A. discoides*, besides another peculiar undescribed form.—*Amer. Journ. Science*, July 1881.